


REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the remarks to follow is respectfully requested. Since the present Response raises no new issues, and in any event, places the application in better condition for consideration on appeal, entry thereof is respectfully requested under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Claim 72 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,159,416 to Kudoh ("Kudoh") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,521,446 to Coleman, et al. ("Coleman, et al"). Claim 72 also stands objected to because of minor informalities present in the claim. Claims 30, 33 and 65-71 are allowable subject matter.

In response to the Examiner's comments and for the purposes of advancing prosecution, applicants have canceled Claim 72, which was previously added in the Response dated April 29, 2004. Despite believing that Claim 72 is patentable subject matter since the prior art fails to teach or suggest a metal layer comprising metal semiconductor regions adjacent to a locally reacted metal, applicants at this time desire to obtain a patent directed to the subject matter recited in the claims deemed allowable. Therefore, since applicants have canceled Claim 72 and the remaining claims have been allowed, applicants respectfully request that a notice of allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,



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